

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

A method for isolating a gene, comprising:

(i) isolating a cell possessing a post-translational characteristic of interest, said post-translational characteristic being the presence of a membrane-bound oligosaccharide or polysaccharide of interest on the surface of said cell, the presence of a soluble oligosaccharide or polysaccharide of interest in an extract of said cell, or the presence of a particularly glycosyltransferase activity in an extract of said cell;

(ii) creating a genetic library of either cDNA or genomic DNA from the genetic material of said isolated cell;

(iii) transforming host cells with said genetic library;
and

(iv) screening said transformed host cells for a host cell containing said post-translational characteristic, thereby obtaining a cell containing said gene, is disclosed. The method can be used to obtain genes encoding glycosyltransferases.